SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED

TOP SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
19 NOV 1958

SUBJECT: Project CORONA (S)

TO: Commander
Air Research & Development Command
Andrews Air Force Base, D.C.

1. Activities incident to Project CORONA have reached such proportions that it is considered necessary to make an appraisal of the project in its entirety. The sensitive nature of the project as well as the number of non-Air Force agencies interested therein add to management complexity.

2. It is desired that you convene a meeting of appropriate Air Force representatives at the earliest practicable date and that you exercise leadership in appraising CORONA. The objectives of this appraisal effort should include but not necessarily be limited to the following:

a. Preparation of clear statement of the primary and secondary objectives of the project.

b. A clear delineation between the covert and overt objectives.

c. A clear statement of the actions being taken to provide cover for the covert aspects of the project.

d. A clear delineation of the responsibilities assigned the Air Force in this project. (If there is no document which delineates the Air Force responsibility, your appraisal activities should include the drafting of a DOD directive to the Secretary of the Air Force which will be recommended to the Secretary of Defense for signature.)

e. A clear statement of the responsibilities that have been assigned non-Air Force agencies as they are known to us. If available information is inadequate, you should initiate or recommend this headquarters initiate actions which are designed to assure that each responsible participating agency knows what is expected of it and of other participants and that means of effecting prompt coordination are established.

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f. The drafting of a document from the Chief of Staff of the Air Force to appropriate subordinate AF elements in which appropriate responsibilities of the Department of the Air Force are redelegated to subordinate elements.

g. A clear delineation of the functions that must be performed within the Air Staff and the designation of the appropriate Air Staff element to serve as a focal point for all matters relating to this project which must be resolved in this or higher headquarters.

h. A clear delineation of responsibility for funding the project by the various agencies involved and means whereby the funding activities can be properly coordinated and affected in a timely manner.

i. The determination of means whereby required support can be procured from elements of the Air Force not directly involved in the project without endangering the security of the project.

3. The following Air Staff personnel will participate in your appraisal efforts:

Brig General Homer A. Boushey - DCS/Development

Maj General Howell M. Estes, Jr - DCS/Operations
Maj General Maurice A. Preston "
Colonel Charles C. Andrews "
Colonel Leo P. Geary "

Brig General Robert J. Friedman - Comptroller

Colonel Richard B. Uhle - DCS/Materiel

Colonel Glen W. Clark - Information Services, SAF

Each of the above named officers have been cleared for this project. It is believed important that representatives of BMD and BMO also participate.

4. It is requested you advise me of the date and place of the initial meeting in order that participants may be advised. In the event I am not available, Major General Estes or Brigadier General Boushey should be advised and requested to inform other participants.

5. This letter if classified ~~TOP SECRET~~ because of the sensitive nature of this project.

Jacob E. Smart

JACOB E. SMART
Major General, U.S. Air Force
Assistant Vice Chief of Staff